



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chairman

1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815 • Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

December 17, 2003

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are providing for your review and comment our draft report, "Proposed Identification of Environmental Tobacco Smoke as a Toxic Air Contaminant, November 2003." We would appreciate your written comments by **March 5, 2004**.

State law directs the Air Resources Board (ARB) to identify and control toxic air pollutants which pose a potential health risk to Californians (Health and Safety Code, sections 39650-39674). In response, the ARB has developed an air toxics program which differentiates between risk assessment (the identification of a pollutant as a toxic air contaminant (TAC)) and risk management (the decision on the need and degree of control).

The ARB and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) have investigated the exposure and health effects of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) since June of 2001, to determine whether it meets the criteria to be identified as a toxic air contaminant (TAC). The ARB and OEHHA have jointly prepared the enclosed draft report to evaluate the need to identify ETS as a TAC. The draft report contains our initial evaluation of exposure and an assessment of the potential health effects resulting from this exposure.

The draft report will undergo a thorough public process with opportunity for public comment. The staff will conduct a public workshop, as well as initiate a formal review by the California Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants. This process will culminate with a formal ARB public hearing to consider whether ETS should be identified as a TAC. We anticipate holding a public workshop in February. Notification of this public workshop will occur under separate cover.

We welcome your comments on the draft report. For more information and to join our e-mail notification list serve, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets/ets>. Your enrollment to the ETS listserve is the best way to ensure future updates on the ETS TAC identification.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Printed on Recycled Paper

Sir or Madam
December 17, 2003
Page 2

Your written comments can be sent to:

Ms. Janette Brooks
Chief, Air Quality Measures Branch
California Air Resources Board
Attention: Environmental Tobacco Smoke
1001 I Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812

Please contact Mr. Jim Aguila, Manager, Substance Evaluation Section, at (916) 322-8283 for the ETS exposure evaluation, or Andrew Salmon, Manager, Air Toxics and Epidemiology Section, at (510) 622-3191 for the ETS health evaluation.

Sincerely,



Janette Brooks, Chief
Air Quality Measures Branch
Air Resources Board

Enclosure

cc: Joan Denton, Ph.D., Director
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

George Alexeeff, Deputy Director
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer
Air Resources Board

Jim Behrmann, Office of the Chair
Air Resources Board

Jim Aguila, Manager
Substance Evaluation Section

Andrew Salmon, Manager
Air Toxics and Epidemiology Section